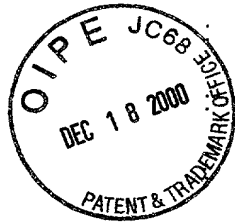


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : Martti TALJA et al.
Serial No. : (Con. Of 08/304,082)
Filed : December 18, 2000
For : BIODEGRADABLE SURGICAL IMPLANTS AND
DEVICES
Group Art Unit : 3308 (Anticipated)
Examiner : D. Isabella (Anticipated)



ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER
FOR PATENTS
Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

S I R:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please enter the amendments listed below. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any required fees in connection with this Amendment to Kenyon & Kenyon's Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, line 5, delete the entire paragraph and insert --This application is a continuation of Application Serial No. 08/304,082, filed September 6, 1994, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 07/681,529, filed July 9, 1991, the entire disclosures of which are hereby incorporated by reference.--

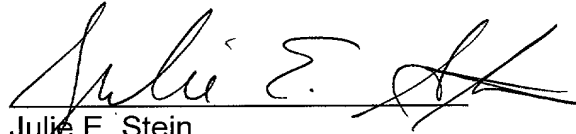
REMARKS

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to discuss any matters related to the prosecution of this patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

KENYON & KENYON

Dated: 12-18-00

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julie E. Stein", is written over a horizontal line.

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